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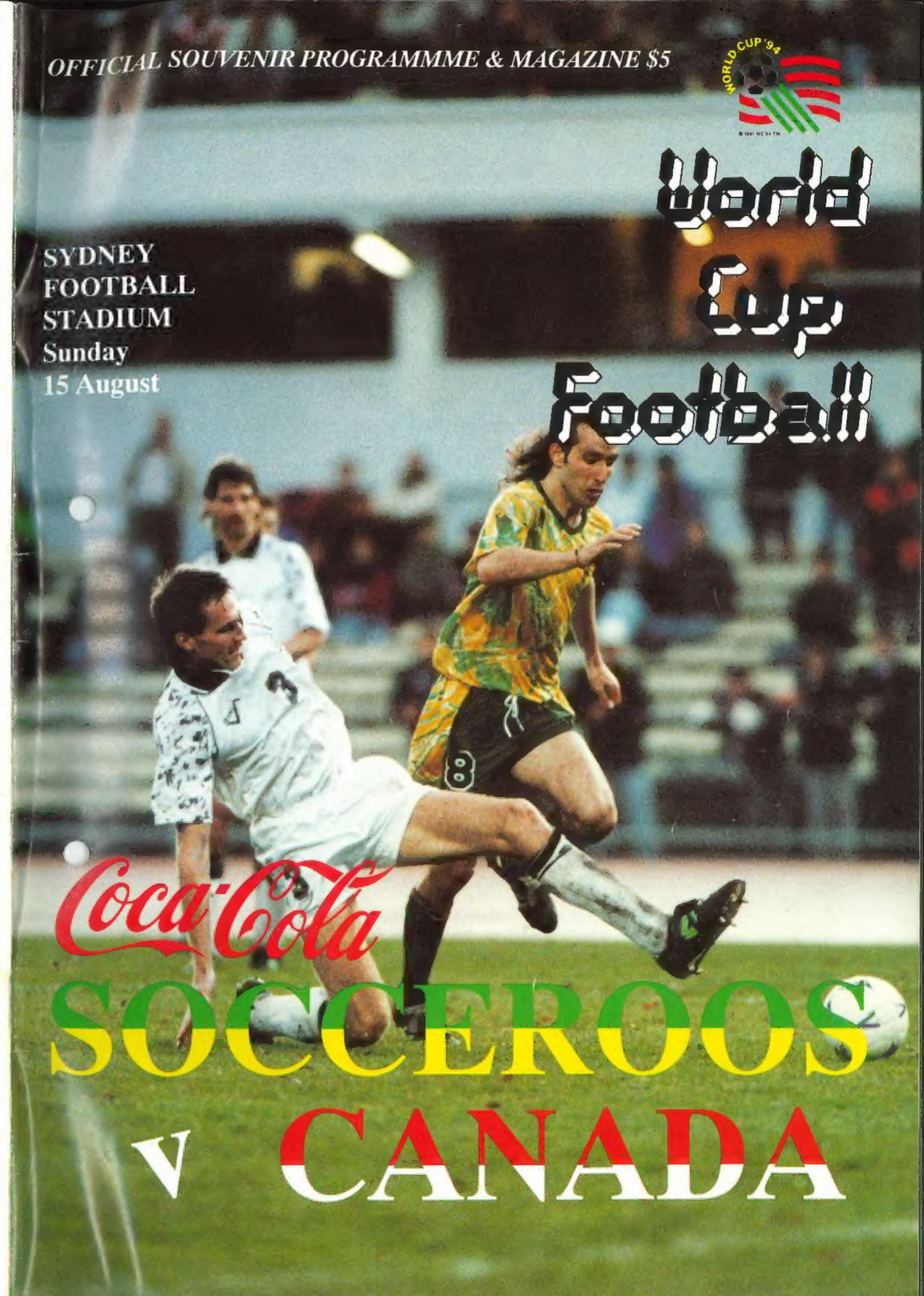

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The Australian Soccer Federation welcomes the Canadian National team and officials to Australia and wishes to publicly thank the Canadian Football Association for the hospitality shown to the *Coca-Cola* Socceroos and our officials during their recent visit to Canada.

The *Coca-Cola* Socceroos' path to the World Cup Finals in the USA in 1994 is not an easy one.

However, if they can show the same determination and dedication that we have seen from our other three National teams over the past two years, then we have every chance of reaching the Finals for the first time since 1974.

Unfortunately, along the way to the finals, it will be necessary to put aside strong friendships during the competition as places are scarce and need to be fought for in earnest.

The *Coca-Cola* Socceroos have shown us what they are capable of during their matches against New Zealand and A.C. Milan.

For this series against Canada, as it was against New Zealand, the squad has been strengthened by the inclusion of ten overseas based players - an indication of the seriousness and importance being placed by the Australian Soccer Federation on these matches and the World Cup itself. Australian soccer cannot afford to be eliminated at this second major hurdle.

The cost of maintaining four National teams is a huge drain on the Australian Soccer Federation. This particular campaign has been the most expensive and would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. I would therefore like to publicly acknowledge this support and in particular single out *Coca-Cola*, the Australian Sports Commission, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, Mitre, Qantas/Australian Airlines and our newest addition, adidas. I hope you like our new team strip. Supporters will be able to purchase replica shirts, tracksuits, jackets and accessories from a wide range of stores throughout Australia from next month onwards.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to all the *Coca-Cola* Socceroo Supporters that have come out in force for the many National team matches played recently proving to the few remaining knockers that Australian Soccer is not only just here to stay but will continue to grow from strength to strength.

JOHN CONSTANTINE AM, OAM
Chairman, ASF

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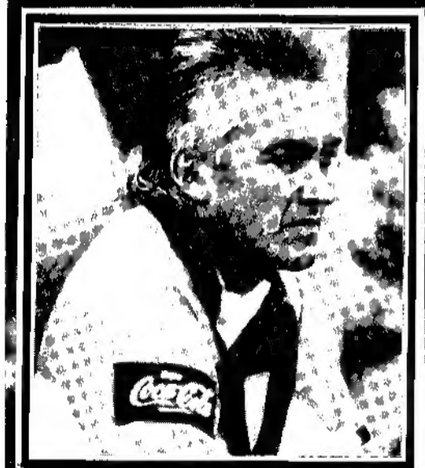
TWO STEPS TO HEAVEN



Coca-Cola Socceroo coach, Eddie Thomson: set to achieve the greatest moment of an already outstanding career

by John White

How do you cap a career which includes playing for two of the best teams in Scotland; playing for your country; captaining the best CCSL team in history; and then leading that same team to Australian Championship victories?

Most of us would feel that we were already in heaven, but not Eddie Thomson, because the Australian coach has another target to reach – and one which has the backing of every sportsman in Australia. The World Cup Finals.

Rale Rasic is the only Australian to have ever led his country to a finals appearance and it is an experience which he will treasure for the rest of his life.

"There is nothing like it in football," says Rasic.

"The World Cup in Germany was just fabulous. We were right up there with all of the best players in the world.

"It is hard to describe it – maybe it is heaven."

Thomson himself is under no illusions about just how important qualification is to football in Australia, but he has already got past that stumbling hurdle of other campaigns, New Zealand.

"It was vital that we got past New Zealand, and in the end we did quite comfortably," said a relieved Thomson.

"Now we must get past Canada, and then wait and see what the draw throws up for us in the next round."

So Australia is just two countries away from a place in the finals – two steps from heaven.

Will we make it? Tonight we will know if we are ready to move up to that penultimate step, and a challenge against the second placed country in South America Group A.

And then it is down to two games each of ninety minutes, 180 minutes of football which could see Australia end a twenty-year long wait for further World Cup glory.

Recently Thomson and his assistant, Les Scheinflug, were both given extensions to their contracts which would see them retain their tenure until after the 1998 World Cup finals in France.

That decision has come in for widespread criticism but it is one which is quickly and strongly defended by ASF Chief Executive Officer, Ian Holmes.

"Australian soccer needs continuity," says Holmes in defence of the contracts issue.

"We have had great results over the last few years at Youth and Olympic levels and it is vital for our continued development to maintain a continuity with our coaching staff.

"We can't keep on changing coaches every time we lose a game."

Holmes may be adopting a pragmatic view with the possibility of elimination always present.

Certainly it will be a mammoth achievement to get past Canada and then possibly Argentina or Colombia.

But there are obviously those at Rockdale who realise that in Thomson they have a person capable of achieving at least the unexpected, if not the impossible. The elimination of super-power Holland from the Olympics was proof for the doubters.

Can Australia reach the World Cup finals?

There are only two steps to heaven left – we have already climbed the others in a ladder of FIFA qualification which has been typically difficult.

Tonight may see Australia climb just that bit higher as our international teams continue to pull our football out of the so-called third world reckoning.

The New Franz?

Just how good is Ned Zelic?

Will he go on to become a true world superstar, or are his knockers right – is the lanky kid from the bush capital of Canberra just a flash in the pan?

"No, he's got so much talent," laughs national coach, Eddie Thomson.

"Ned is just a natural athlete," says former mentor Tommy Sermanni,, now back in Canberra where he is on the AIS coaching staff.

But during an unhappy spell at Sydney CSC, Zelic struggled to even get a game with the first team.

"All the coach (Vedran Rozic) would tell me was 'Go to gym'. That was all he said to me during my time with him," says Zelic, who now has the last laugh on his former team coach.

With his Bundesliga club Borussia Dortmund reportedly knocking back a $US5 million offer for their classy sweeper from Italian giants Torino, that makes Zelic the hottest Aussie soccer player around.

But it could have been so different.

"The trouble with Ned was that he was always playing with kids much older than himself," explains AIS Head Coach, Ron Smith.

"We only took him into the Institute because we recognised his potential. But he was always less physically developed than the other lads.

"Because he is such a big person he always had this problem while he was growing.

"But now that he has stopped growing, just look at him. He is all class."

Zelic's big break came when he went on loan to his former club, Canberra Metros, where he re-united with Tommy Sermanni.

Under Sermanni the strapping sweeper developed into a superb athlete and a gifted footballer.

So much so that he was called in to the national team to make his debut against Czechoslovakia.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Zelic now finds himself on the brink of major world stardom in a country where he is being likened to former German master, Franz Beckenbauer.

"Yes, the kids call me Franz," admits Zelic.

But how does he find this new adulation.

"I don't get mobbed, which is good. But the fans in Dortmund are really great. They recognise you without actually coming straight up and talking to you like they would do in other places."

Constant references to his leisurely style of play in the German media liken Zelic to Beckenbauer, who himself earned the sobriquet of *Der Kaiser,* for his own particular brand of majestic football.

And the signs are that the boy from Canberra will go all the way on the world club stage. Dortmund are so happy with their signing that they are looking at another 'Vegemite Kid' for their stable – Sydney CSC World Youth Cup striker, Ante Milicic. It is likely that Milicic, who has also had a spell at Zelic's Canberra club this winter, will find himself in Germany after the next CCSL season.

And Zelic?

"I'll never be satisfied with my play," admits the Canberra whizz kid.

"I'm always going to be looking for an improvement.

"England? I still think what it would have been like if I had gone there. Just now I'm not even going to dwell on it. But, who knows in the future?"

photograph courtesy of Oceania Sports Management

from unwanted Canberra boy to big time international star – Ned Zelic has come a long way in a short time

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC HOTELS

Canada shares much common ground in the development of their domestic game with Australia – yet the two countries have only ever met once before, in 1924.

Canadian soccer has much in common with Australia – a similar background of development and an equal struggle to gain eminence by World Cup qualification.

But with just over 220,000 registered members the game in Canada is even less recognised than it is in this country, and lags way behind hockey and grid iron in the sporting popularity stakes.

Also, Canadian soccer has a strong European influence with many of the clubs bearing the names of their ethnic background.

Canadian World Cup hopes were at one time just a fairy story but with the advent of the North American Soccer League the strongest clubs had a better platform on which to raise their standards.

The collapse of that league in 1984 led to the formation of the Canadian Soccer League, but with the recent defection of top Canadian clubs to the new US version that league has also ceased.

Clubs like Vancouver Whitecaps played a significant role in the history of the NASL, even to the point where players like Newcastle United's new signing Peter Beardsley rescued a flagging career in their colours.

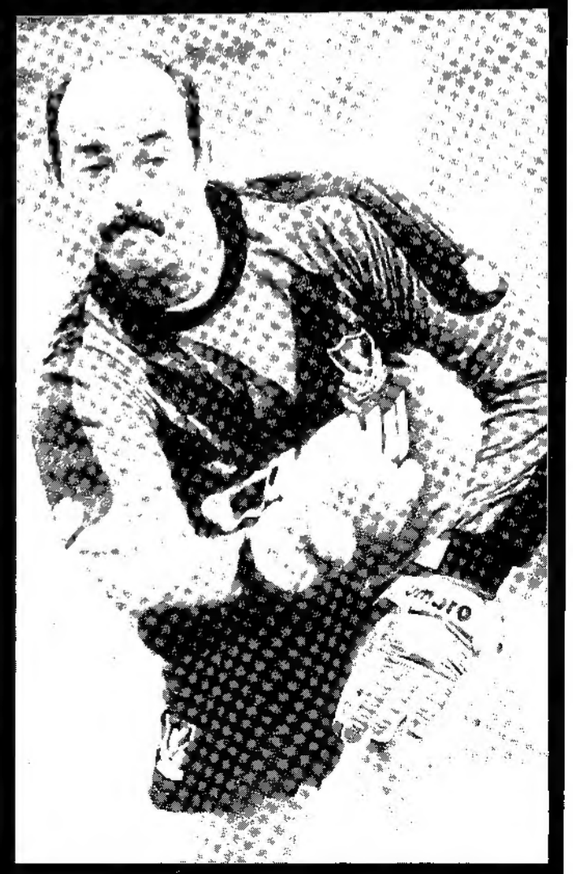
Another famous ex–Whitecap is Liverpool's flamboyant Zimbabwean goalie, Bruce Grobbelaar.

But Canada also suffers the Aussie problem of huge distance, making travel between British Columbia (on the west) and Toronto (on the eastern seaboard) extremely difficult and expensive.

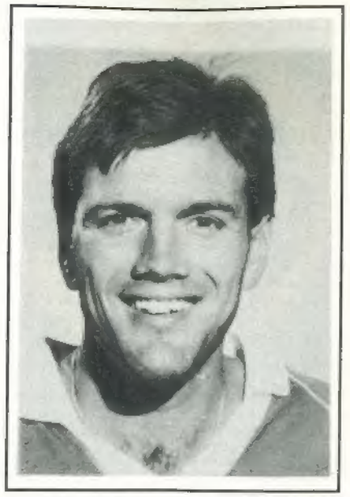
Again, like Australia, Canada has appeared in only one World Cup finals to date – at Mexico '86 when they lost successive games to France, Hungary and the USSR. Mexico has largely dominated the CONCACAF countries with nine total appearances.

Yet another similarity is the present day exodus of Canadian players to Europe – with no fewer than six of the current squad playing with clubs in England, Scotland, Holland and Greece.

Surprisingly Canada and Australia have only met on the football field once before – way back in 1924 – and two countries that have almost parallel histories have remained strangers until pulled together in combat as qualifiers for USA '94.



Bobby's Ball Game



by
Alan Cameron
in Vancouver

Canada's coach Bobby Lenarduzzi is well used to the highs and lows of football. As former coach of the Vancouver 86ers he was used to winning, so much so that the 86ers dominated the Canadian Soccer League until it collapsed earlier this year.

But now he is charged with the responsibility of bringing big time football back to Canada – and the first ever Canadian–born coach to assume that task.

When Canada qualified for the 86 World Cup Finals they looked to be riding the crest of a football wave. Even their narrow loss to France by a goal conceded in the last eight minutes of the opening game wasn't enough to dampen their enthusiasm.

And when the new CSL started just after the World Cup with eight teams everything in the garden looked rosy.

But October 1992 saw the defection of Vancouver into the American APSL and the slow rot set in until finally the clubs that remained joined forces with the established Canadian National Soccer League.

For Lenarduzzi the World Cup clash with Australia represents an opportunity to set the clock back. His predecessor suffered the ignominious exit of an away goals loss to lowly Guatemala.

"Maybe complacency set in then," says Lenarduzzi.

With Mexico suspended by FIFA for cheating in a youth tournament Canada's path was as easy as it could be.

"There is no doubt about it, we were caught with our pants down.

"When you play in the World Cup you can't afford to go out and just go on the attack.

"We have to be very disciplined, but I'd still like to see us be a bit more adventuresome and imaginative than in the past, and we have the players capable of doing that."

But Canada have again been caught with their pants down, an 8–0 CONCACAF Gold Cup thrashing from Mexico hardly being the right lead–up to a vital home and away clash.

Critics of Lenarduzzi's team cite their English long ball game style. With good midfield players in the squad the feeling is that the team doesn't have the chance to settle down and play good build–up soccer.

With the memory of a record defeat by the Mexicans still haunting him Lenarduzzi realises that he must win against the Australians.

For Bobby Lenarduzzi the prize is a big one – a do–or–die clash with the South American team, and a chance to go into the history books as maybe the one person who has pulled Canadian football out of what many see as a terminal decline.

1986 Canadian World Cup captain Bruce Wilson

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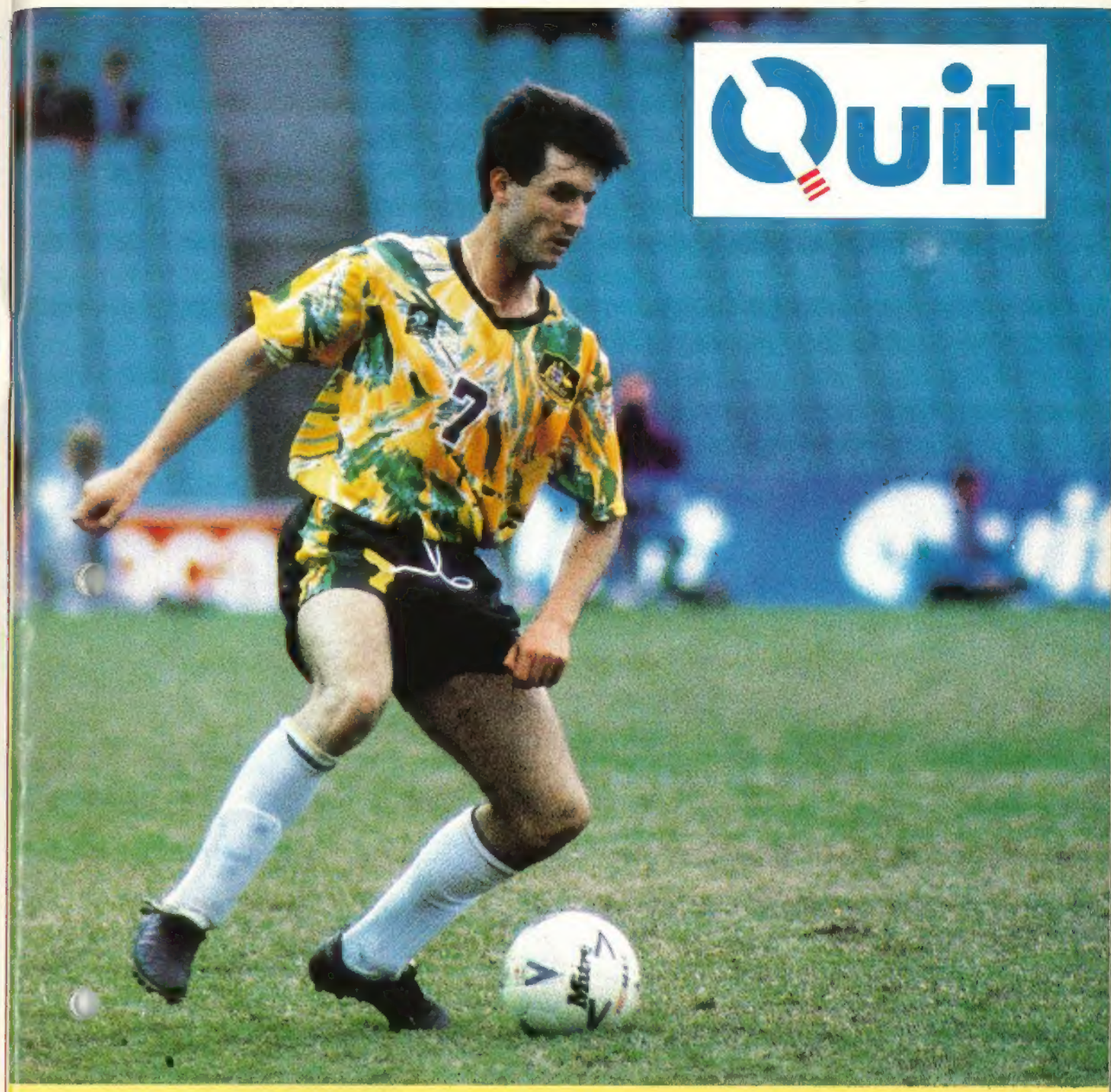

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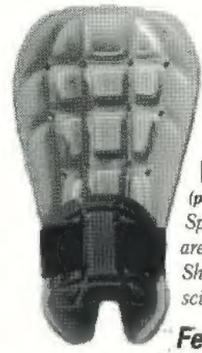

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The Entertainers

Who are your favourite players of all time, who is the greatest player ever? Bruce Campbell looks at the football–evergreen as he selects his Five Most Entertaining Footballers of all time.

One of the most hotly debated subjects in football concerns the best ever player or the best ever team. Every time the subject comes up – and it is a perennial evergreen – it is sure to cause hours and hours of hot debate.

The subject of 'The Five Most Entertaining Players I Have Seen' – is a real hot potato, and one which is sure to reach almost universal disagreement.

Any selection has to have boundaries and the ones I have chosen are simple. All the players are ones I have had the personal opportunity to see, players who have been renowned for skills and ones who I have actually gone to a match to see – rather than the team.

In short they were all players with a capital P.

The five I have chosen cover three nationalities – three Scotsmen, an Irishman and an Aussie. Yes, an Australian.

That might cause a lot of raised eyebrows but I haven't lived in Brazil so have never had the pleasure of seeing Pele 'live', nor did I live in Germany when Beckenbauer was strolling through his games with nonchalant ease, nor did I ever see the great Johann Cruyff live.

That isn't to say that any of these players, and countless others, weren't great but I am an advocate of live football where you have the opportunity to witness players running off the ball as well as on it.

And often it is that off the ball running that drags defenders and creates space for others to attack into.

Television will never be able to match that, nor will it ever be able to capture the atmosphere of a packed stadium.

The atmosphere on such occasions is always breathtaking in its intensity, electricity filling the air and the tumult arising from a crowd united almost in one voice something that lives with a real football fan forever.

That is the stage for my Entertainers – not some dusty old book or video clip.

The first of the Scots, Denis Law, is a choice many would agree with straight away.

To my generation he was the 'King' – at both Old Trafford and Hampden Park when he pulled on the Dark Blue of Scotland.

Law's Jackknife headers filled his fans with awe, his ability to seemingly hover in the air struck panic in defences.

In short he was one of the finest strikers of the post war era.

His two fellow Scots in my selection are perhaps not as well known.

One of them, Pat Stanton, is in my five because he was the epitome of a dedicated club man, a true sportsman in an era when the ugly side of professionalism was coming rapidly to the fore.

In his time at Hibernian, King Paddy was the heart of a side rated the most entertaining in Britain. That it failed to capture more than a few trophies was a travesty, but one which never overshadowed the ability of the side to entertain.

If Stanton wasn't the most gifted player to ever grace the green and white of Hibs then he was certainly the greatest ever professional – and the fans loved him for it.

Slim Jim Baxter comes in as my third Scot. In his time at Glasgow Rangers he was, in my young mind, one of the greatest players I have ever seen – and he remains so today.

Baxter had it all, well nearly, because his tackling ability was non–existent. As a midfielder he believed in attacking play – marking, he couldn't mark time!

Maybe Baxter seldom hit the world headlines but that is the rest of the world's loss because Slim Jim was one of the game's greats.

My abiding memory of Jim Baxter, and unfortunately a celluloid one, was of the mop haired genius taunting the English side in their first game after winning the World Cup in 1966, even to the point of sitting down on the ball at one stage. Glorious entertainment.

My fourth player had one thing in common with Baxter – an uncanny ability to weave past a defender as if they were invisible.

If he was a wayward genius then that only seemed to add to his attraction.

George Best, Manchester United and Northern Ireland, and also one time guest player in Australia, thrilled a generation which found new moods of expression through the music of northern England, a generation which idolised rebels. Even rebels on the football field like the brilliant Bestie.

Like the others, he also played at a time when football was brilliant in its simplicity.

But like Baxter, he never had the opportunity to display his talents on the World Cup stage, and like other great players from other countries his place in the selections of world greats is to be lost because of it. But not mine.

The last of my great entertainers is the shock of the five – because he is an Aussie, because he never figured prominently in the National League, and because we rarely got the chance to see his exploits of the small screen.

But Adrian Alston was the best player of the 1974 Australian World Cup team, the one who had managers and talent scouts haggling for his signature and the one whose transfer to English First Division side Luton Town paved the way for the modern day flood of Aussies into Europe.

Alston played for South Coast United and St George before moving into the big time with Luton. Later he played for Cardiff City and Tampa Bay Rowdies (as well as a guest spell with the then NSL Canberra City) before a cruciate ligament injury ended his career.

Noddy had the charisma and ability to charm his band of fans and capped that all of with many fine goals – most of them echoed with his famous 'Get In' cry.

Like Law, Alston possessed that uncanny ability to hover before rattling a header with deadly accuracy.

Again he wasn't the most brilliant, nor the most skilful ball–player. But, like the others, he had that extra something else.

What is that quality which sets players apart from their fellows, which makes some a hero to the man in the stand?

To many it is different things, to me it is simple.

It is that ability to provide entertainment, to transform the sight of twenty two men chasing around a field kicking a silly ball into something else – the graceful art of football.

Australia v Canada

The Road to USA '94

AUSTRALIA'S ROUTE

OCEANIA GROUP A

Solomon Islands 1 Australia 2 (Veart, McCulloch)
Tahiti 0 Australia 3 (Mori, Veart, Wade)
Australia 2 Tahiti 0 (Veart, Durakovic)
Australia 6 Solomon Islands 1 (Genc, Gray, Wade, Veart, Brown, Durakovic)
(Australia qualified as Group Winners)

PLAY–OFF v WINNER GROUP D

New Zealand 0 Australia 1 (Arnold)
Australia 3 (Veart, A Vidmar, Zelic) New Zealand 0
(Australia qualified to play Canada in the Elimination Round)

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S. Obata (Japan)
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CANADA'S ROUTE

CONCACAF 2nd ROUND GROUP B

Jamaica 1 Canada 1 (Mitchell)
El Salvador 1 Canada 1 (Miller)
Canada 1 Jamaica 0 (Mitchell)
Canada 2 El Salvador 3 (Miller, Mitchell)
Canada 4 Bermuda 2 (Bunbury 3, Aunger)
Bermuda 0 Canada 0 (qualify for final round as Group Runners Up)

FINAL ROUND

Honduras 2 Canada 2 (Catliff, Bunbury)
Canada 2 (Bunbury, Catliff) El Salvador 0
Canada 3 (Mobilico, Catliff 2) Honduras 1
El Salvador 1 Canada 2 (Catliff, Bunbury)
Canada 1 (Bunbury) Mexico 2
Mexico 4 Canada 0
(Canada qualified as Runners Up to meet Australia)

ELIMINATION ROUND, Winner Oceania v Runner Up CONCACAF

FIRST LEG, Edmonton, July 31

Canada 2 (Watson 52, Mobilio 57) Australia 1 (Dasovic o.g. 44)

Canada: Forrest, Yallop, Watson, Dasovic (Valentine HT), Sweeney, Mitchell, Hooper, Miller, Limniatis (Ordinga HT), Mobilio, Bunbury.

Australia: Zabica, Blagojevic (Schwarzer), Tobin, Durakovic, Van Blerk, Slater, A Vidmar, Zelic, Farina, Arnold.

Yellow Cards: Sweeney, Van Blerk, Farina.
Red Cards: Zabica (suspended for return leg)
Crowd: 27,775

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

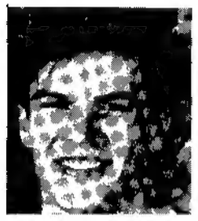
Australians all let us rejoice;
for we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

O CANADA

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

Coca-Cola SOCCEROOS

GRAHAM ARNOLD
Striker
Born 3.8.63
RC Liegois (Belgium)
41 caps
Played for Roda in Holland after leaving Sydney CSC. Deadly in front of goals and a real fans' favourite.



MILAN BLAGOJEVIC
Full Back
Born 24.12.69
Germinal Ekeren (Belgium)
6 caps
Former Apia player and one of the stars of the Barcelona Olympics. Forced way back into the team against Milan.

JASON Van BLERK
Midfielder
Born 16.3.68
Go Ahead Eagles (Holland)
16 caps
AIS graduate. Father Cliff was also an Australian international in the 60s. Classy ball player.

STEVE CORICA
Midfielder
Born 24.3.73
Marconi
2 caps
The revelation of last season's CCSL. Very talented ball player tipped for a big future. AIS graduate.

MEHMET DURAKOVIC
Stopper
Born 13.10.65
South Melbourne
26 caps
Outplayed Papin in the recent friendlies against Milan. Brilliant man marker and real tough guy defender.

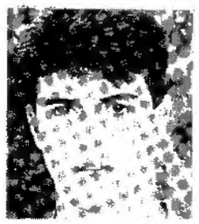
FRANK FARINA
Forward
Born 5.9.64
Strasbourg (France)
34 caps
Also played in Belgium and Italy in a brilliant career. First broke into CCSL with Canberra.

MILAN IVANOVIC
Defender
Born 21.12.68
Adelaide City
18 caps
Former Red Star Belgrade sweeper enjoying huge success in Australia. Made Australian debut 1991.

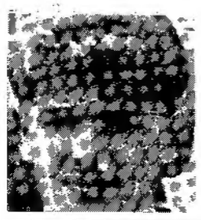
STAN LAZARIDIS
Full Back
Born 15.08.72
West Adelaide
2 caps
Rookie of the year in the CCSL. Made debut against Kuwait in April. A big bet for the future.

DOMINIC LONGO
Defender
Born 23.8.70
Cercle Brugge (Belgium)
2 caps
Moved from Newcastle Breakers to Brugge after Olympics. Australian debut v New Zealand. AIS graduate.

DAVIE MITCHELL
Striker
Born 13.6.62
Izmir (Turkey)
28 caps
Much travelled former World Youth Cup star with spells at Glasgow Rangers, Eintra Feyenoord and Chelsea.



PAUL OKON
Midfield
Born 5.4.72
Club Brugges (Belgium)
2 caps
Product of Youth and Olympic team. Stylish player plagued by injuries recently. Formerly with Marconi .



JASON POLAK
Midfielder
Born 9.1.68
Newcastle BHP Breakers
8 caps
Played with Sydney Olympic, Panathinaikos, Kortrijk and De Graafschap. AIS graduate.

Pen Portraits

ROBBIE SLATER
Forward
Born 22.11.64
RC Lens (France)
10 caps
The star against New Zealand. Made CCSL debut at 17 with St George before moving to Sydney CSC.

ALEX TOBIN
Central Defender
Born 5.4.66
Adelaide City
32 caps
An ever present since Thomson became coach. Solid for country and club, which he joined in 1984.

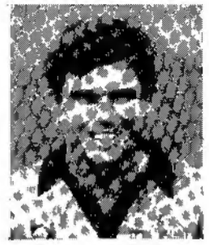
CARL VEART
Striker
Born 21.05.70
Adelaide City
8 caps
Burst onto international scene with a goal in each of his first four games. Former *Coca-Cola* Olyroo. Prolific scorer.

AURELIO VIDMAR
Midfield
Born 3.2.67
SV Waregem (Belgium)
10 caps
Appearances for Australia limited by club duty. Also played for Adelaide City and Kortrijk. Classy playmaker.

TONY VIDMAR
Defender
Born 4.7.70
Adelaide City
9 caps
Returned to City after unsuccessful spell in Belgium. Reclaimed spot in squad but yet to break back into team.

PAUL WADE
Midfielder
Born 20.3.63
South Melbourne
60 caps
Third most capped player in history. Recently lost regular position in team.

NED ZELIC
Sweeper
Born 4.7.71
Borussia Dortmund (Ger)
11 caps
Elegant former Canberra, Sydney CSC and Sydney Olympic player who starred in Barcelona.



TONY FRANKEN
Goalkeeper
Born 11.1.65
Sydney United
2 caps
Part of the national squad for 8 years before making full *Coca-Cola* Socceroo debut in 1992. AIS Graduate.

MARK SCHWARZER
Goalkeeper
Born 6.10.72
Marconi
1 cap
Brilliant keeper plagued by injury and mis-fortune. Made stunning debut after Zabica was sent off in first leg.

Coach - EDDIE THOMSON

Born 25.2.47
Playing Career;
Heart of Midlothian (Sco)
Aberdeen
San Antonio Thunder
Sydney City
Capped for Scotland at Under 23 and also Scottish League
Appointed National Coach 1990

Assistant Coach LES SCHEINFLUG

Born 1.10.38
Playing Career; Prague Marconi
6 caps (3 goals)
World Cup skipper 1965
National Coach 1981-84

Assistant Coach RAUL BLANCO

Born 4.12.41
Playing Career; Argentina St George
Coach of West Adelaide
Former NSW State and Parramatta Eagles Coach

TOUR LEADER: Tony Labbozzetta **DOCTOR:**Ron Muratore **PHYSIOTHERAPIST:** Pedro Ruz **GEAR STEWARD:** Steve O'Connor

LIKELY LINE UPS

20 Mark Schwarzer

Coca-Cola
SOCCEROOS

4 Ned Zelic

2 Milan Blagojevic | 5 Alex Tobin | 13 Mehmet Durakvoic | 10 Jason Van Blerk

11 Robbie Slater | 15 Paul Okon | Aurelio Vidmar

7 Frank Farina

ASF
Australian Soccer Federation

9 Graham Arnold

Alex Bunbury

Domenic Mobilio | John Catliff

John Limniatis | Lyndon Hooper | Dale Mitchell

Mark Watson | Mike Sweeney | Colin Miller | Frank Yallop

CANADA

CANADA

Craig Forrest

Star Socceroo

JASON POLAK

CANADA

EDDY BERDUSCO
Forward
Born 8.9.69, Ontario
North York Rockets
6 caps
Represented Canada at all levels – including Indoor. CSL top scorer in 1992

ALEX BUNBURY
Forward
Born 16.6.67, Guyana
West Ham United (Eng)
41 caps
Became first Canadian to score a World Cup hat trick (v Bermuda 1992). Formerly with Montreal.

JOHN CATLIFF
Forward
Born 8.1.65, Vancouver
Vancouver 86ers
38 caps
Powerful striker, back in national team after 2 year break with injury. Average of goal every 2 games.

NICK DASOVIC
Midfielder
Born 5.12.68, Vancouver
North York Rockets
14 caps
Fringe player in team, made international against China in 1992.

CRAIG FORREST
Goalkeeper
Born 20.9.67, Vancouver
Ipswich Town (Eng)
21 caps
6'5" regular keeper with club since '88, the same year he made national debut with clean sheet against Chile.

LYNDON HOOPER
Midfielder
born 30.5.66, Guyana
Toronto Blizzard
40 caps
Consistent player, has been a regular since his debut in '86.

JOHN LIMNIATIS
Midfielder
Born 24.6.67, Greece
Montreal Impact
31 caps
Played at Under 17 and Olympic level. Also played with Aris Salonika and Panetolikos in Greece.

COLIN MILLER
Defender
Born 4.10.64, Scotland
Hamilton Accies (Scotland)
34 caps
Starred in '86 WYC and signed by Glasgow Rangers but moved to Hamilton after failing to hold first team place

DALE MITCHELL
Forward
Born 25.4.58, Vancouver
Vancouver 86ers
54 caps
Squad veteran and all–time top scorer with 19 international goals. Played in '86 World Cup finals.

DAVE NORMAN
Midfielder
Born 6.5.62, Scotland
Vancouver 86ers
48 caps
Played in '84 Olympics and '86 World Cup finals. Also played NASL with Vancouver Whitecaps.

PATRICK ONSTAD
Goalkeeper
Born 13.1.68, Vancouver
Winnipeg Fury
11 caps
Played at B, Under 20 and senior level, and is currently understudy to Craig Forrest.

PAUL PESCHISOLIDO
Forward
Born 25.5.71, Ontario
Birmingham City (Eng)
11 caps
Signed for Birmingham in 1992. Fringe player

Pen Portraits

MARCO RIZI
Defender
Born 15.9.68, Montreal
FC Supra de Montreal
5 caps
Plays pro Indoor with Detroit in USA. Graduate of the National Youth team he is still a fringe player at senior level.

RANDY SAMUEL
Defender
Born, 23.12.63, Trinidad
Fortuna Sittard (Holland)
55 caps
Team–mate of former Marconi striker, Fred de Jong. Played in '86 Finals. Also played with PSV.

MIKE SWEENEY
Defender
Born 25.12.59, Duncan, BC
Unattached
60 caps
Made debut against New Zealand in 1980, now contracted directly to CSA. Extensive NASL career.

CARL VALENTINE
Midfielder
born 4.7.58, England
Vancouver 86ers
26 caps
Former NASL cult figure with Vancouver Whitecaps. Played 86 Finals. Also with Oldham and West Brom.

MARK WATSON
Defender
Born 7.9.70, Vancouver
Vancouver 86ers
17 caps
The current star of Candian football. Formerly with Intrepid, Hamilton Steelers and 86ers

FRANK YALLOP
Defender
Born 4.4.64, England
Ipswich Town (Eng)
23 caps
10 years at Ipswich. Also rep England at Youth level

DOMENIC MOBILIO
Forward
Born 14.1.69
Vancouver 86ers
14 caps
Late call–up into World Cup squad making debut against El Salvador in prelims. Scored against Honduras.

Coach – BOBBY LENARDUZZI

Born 1.5.55
Playing Career;
Vancouver Whitecaps (11 seasons)
47 caps – retired after 1986 World Cup finals.
Coach of Vancouver 86ers (4 times CSL Champions)
Appointed National Coach in February 1992
Record To Date:
P27 W11 D8 L8 F43 A44

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Canada To Try Again

by Ted Simmons
of Australian Associated Press

After an absence of 70 years, Canada will be making its second attempt to beat Australia in a series of games.

The Canadians last visited Australia in 1924 when they played a series of 'Test' matches which were won 3–2 by Australia with one match drawn.

On that tour the Canadians played a total of 26 matches, winning 11, losing eight and with seven draws. They scored 46 goals and had 31 scored against them.

It was a good time for the Canadians to visit. Australia had lost two of its three internationals against New Zealand the previous year and was looking for a country where soccer was still a fledgling sport – as it was in the land Down Under.

Two goalkeepers, three full backs, four halves and seven forwards made up the Canadian squad, accompanied by manager Jim Adams and trainer D Morrison.

A far cry indeed from today's squads which usually number 18–20 players, coach, assistant coach, physio, doctor, gear steward, manager and tour leader.

Queensland was the starting point for the Canadians where they had a successful run against State and regional teams, displaying skills which made observers rate them as good as the winning Kiwis from the previous year.

So the first Test was set down for Brisbane on June 7 at the Cricket Ground with Archie Jackson as the referee.

It couldn't have been a better start for the Australians who finished 3–2 in front at full time after the scores had been locked 1–1 at the break.

But the real drama began in the dressing room before the game had even started. The Australian players objected to the selectors dropping right wing Todd Edwards in favour of a local player – W Mitchell – especially after Edwards had been named in the team.

The players said that once a player was selected he should play and they refused to take the field unless Edwards was reinstated.

The officials immediately conferred and it was finally decided by the Australian executive by a vote of nine votes to two, and Edwards took his place in the line up.

The incomparable Judy Masters was captain and was determined that Australia should have a winning series.

Balgownie winger David Ward opened the score but the Canadians levelled before half time. But in the second half Masters revealed why he was the Australian captain when he completed a passing movement to score and then made a solo run to put Australia 3–1 ahead.

The crowd of 10,000 received plenty of action for its money with the Canadians on continual attack to try and square the match. However, it was agreed that Australia was the better team on the day.

For the record, the Australian line–up was: G Cartwright (Balmain), F Gallen (Balmain), T Oliver (Weston), J White (Brisbane), A Henderson (Granville), Nunn (Brisbane), A Edwards (Brisbane), D Ward (Balgownie), J Masters (Balgownie), H Sherringham (Sydney), F Mellier–Smith (Sydney).

Australia had beaten New Zealand in Brisbane the year before and the game in the Queensland capital made it two in succession for the national team.

The second Test was set down for June 14 at the Sydney Royal Agricultural Show Ground where 8,000 people saw the Canadians graft a hard–fought 1–0 win

The goal came in the first half when Gallen tried to clear a high ball but sent it to Canadian half back Stobbart who angled it past Melbourne keeper Robinson.

With the series level on one win each, 7,000 people turned up at the Show Ground again on the holiday Monday a week later hoping to see Australia post its first victory in the NSW capital.

Straight Shooting

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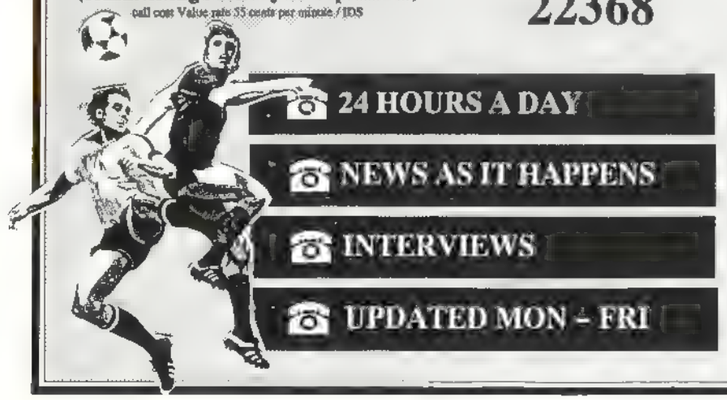

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And the Australians did just that in convincing manner, taking a lead of 3–0 by half time and ending the match with a 4–1 scoreline.

Judy Masters was quickly on the spot, booting the first goal past the Canadian keeper and heading a second before William Maunder sprinted on to a high pass to make it 3–0.

Maunder made it a double to put Australia in an unbeatable position although Canada did pull one goal back after half Gil Storey had been sent off by referee William Wright.

Newcastle was the venue for the fourth Test on June 28 and supported the match with an attendance of 10,000 at the Show Ground.

But a dismal day with rain and a heavy ground didn't create the best facilities with few shots at goal and the match ended in a scoreless draw.

So it was on to Adelaide for Test number five and Australia leading the series 2–1. But the Canadians were far from beaten and gave Australia a taste of the same medicine they had received in Sydney two matches earlier.

Canada led 2–0 at half time and ran out easy winners 4–1 at Jubilee Oval in front of a crowd of 8,200

Three Victorians were in that Australian side and the team played well as individuals but couldn't get its act together. In addition Gil Storey was injured and left the field after 25 minutes.

In those early days, substitutes were not allowed, which meant that Australia played 65 minutes with only 10 men ....

Canada's goals started in the 10th minute through Wilson, followed by Linning who put away a rebound from keeper Cartwright. Wilson scored his second when play resumed after the break and a few minutes later Stobbart scored from a free kick.

Maunder got a consolation goal for the Australians although he and Masters had a few chances which were not converted.

Because the tour was a financial loss at that stage and the series had now been squared, it was decided to stage an extra match in Sydney to try and decide the issue and pick up some extra money.

Again the Show Ground was the venue with a healthy but slightly disappointing crowd of 8,000. Every player c game from Sydney, Newcastle or the South Coast.

The Canadians could plead to luck going against them. Defender McLean was sent off, forward Linning retired injured and keeper Noseworthy in clearing his goal was severely injured and had to be taken to hospital, virtually leaving the team with eight men.

Play was marred by questionable tactics, both sides frequently breached the rules and referee Nicholson was abused by the crowd for what they considered was his lack of control.

And as he started the series, so captain Judy Masters ended it in favour of the Australians.

Masters, Ward and Balgownie's Tom Thompson started the match at a furious pace and with more purpose than shown in many of their earlier games.

The Canadians were consistent and frequently worked the ball into the Australian area where the defence, particularly Gallen and Oliver, kept them out while Cartwright was brilliant in goals.

But the Australian attack was sharp and fast with the ball being moved around quickly.

Thompson was the initiator of the goal. He gained possession, found Masters who sent the ball to Granville winger Stan Bourke who completed his run down the line and centered back to Masters who picked his spot and put away the winner.

That goal was scored before half time but the Australians found it easier in the second half as the injury toll mounted against the Canadians.

After the match, Canadian manager Adams expressed his dis–satisfaction with the control of the game and indicated a protest would be made to the Commonwealth Association which had controlled the tour.

There have been many changes to the game since that Test series and both countries have made substantial advances in the sport.

The only area which will not have changed is the desire by each each team to be the winner. And this time there is much more at stake than dollars and cents, with national pride and a place in the World Cup finals the ultimate goal.

The 1924 Canadian Tour of Australia

Sydney Metropolitan 0 Canada 0
South Coast (Woonona) 0 Canada 2
New South Wales 5 Canada 2
Granville 0 Canada 0
Newcastle 1 Canada 1
Maitland 1 Canada 1
Brisbane 0 Canada 4
Queensland 0 Canada 4
AUSTRALIA 3 CANADA 2 (Brisbane)
Ipswich 0 Canada 2
Tamworth 0 Canada 8
AUSTRALIA 0 CANADA 1 (Sydney)
Sydney Metropolitan 6 Canada 2
South Coast 2 Canada 2
AUSTRALIA 4 CANADA 1 (Sydney)
Balmain 0 Canada 1
AUSTRALIA 0 CANADA 0 (Newcastle)
Victoria 2 Canada 1
AUSTRALIA 0 CANADA 3
South Australia 0 Canada 3
Australian Select 1 Canada 4
Victoria 1 Canada 1
South Coast 1 Canada 0
Maitland 1 Canada 1
AUSTRALIA 1 CANADA 0 (Sydney)
West Wallsend 3 Canada 0

Tour Games
Games Played 20
Canada;
Won 5
Drawn 10
Lost 5
Goals For 39
Goals Against 23

Test Matches
Australia;
Won 3
Drawn 1
Lost 2
Goals For 8
Goals Against 7

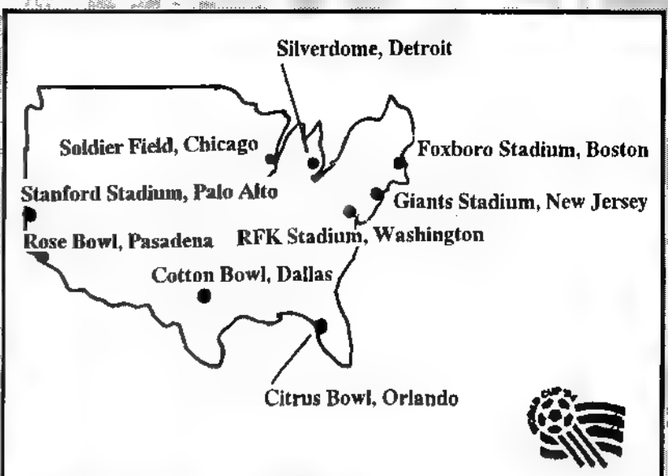
These pre–war tours were organised much like the present day cricket tours with visiting teams playing a mixture of Test Matches and friendlies against club and State sides when they had the opportunity to play fringe players.

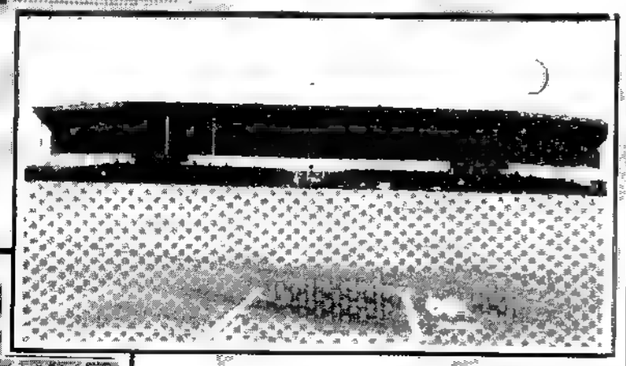
Games against club sides were often more of a test than the internationals – with club sides fielding an experienced team with often the players themselves pushing for their own international recognition.

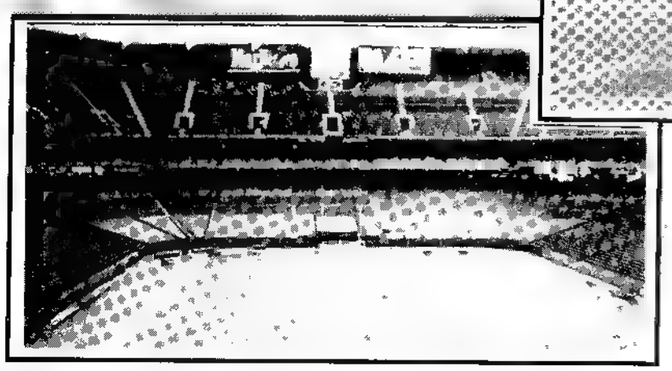
Maybe the most interesting result of the 1924 Canadian tour – other than the five Test matches –was the 3–0 loss by Canada to Northern NSW club side, West Wallsend. At that time West Wallsend were unquestionably the top Australian club side – as their hammering of the Canadians shows.

They had won the Gardiner Cup (the top knockout trophy in Australia at the time) three times in four years, and faced Canada brim full of Australian internationals and State representative players

U.S.A. '94







The Qualifiers

Germany (Champions)
USA (Host nation)

EUROPE
Group 1: Switzerland, Italy, Scotland or Portugal (2 qualify)
Group 2: Norway, England, Holland or Poland (2 qualify)
Group 3: Eire, Denmark or Spain (2 qualify)
Group 4: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Wales or Romania (2 qualify)
Group 5: **Russia** and **Greece**
Group 6: Sweden, France or Bulgaria (2 qualify)
AFRICA
Group A: Ivory Coast or Algeria
Group B: Morocco, Zambia or Senegal
Group C: Cameroon, Guinea or Zimbabwe
ASIA
Final Stage: North Korea, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Japan, South Korea or Iran (2 qualify)
CONCACAF
Final Stage: Mexico
SOUTH AMERICA
Group 1: Colombia, Argentina or Paraguay
Group 2: Brazil, Uruguay, or Ecuador (2 qualify)
OCEANIA/CONCACAF/Sth AMERICA
Final Stages: Australia v Canada (winner) or Runner Up South America Group 1 (1 qualifies)

Total: 24 nations

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Next Stop Colombia?

WORLD CUP '94

John White takes a peep into the future – and into the recent past to have a look at the next stage opponents on the World Cup trail

The ominous task facing the winner of the elimination series between Australia and Canada is a final home and away tie against the Runner Up in South America Group 1.

On current form that could well be either Argentina or Colombia, but with the three times World Cup winners highly fancied to take out the group then that could well mean a trip to Colombia.

Australia has never faced the skilful South Americans at senior international level although *Coca-Cola* Socceroo supporters will well remember the opening clash of the World Youth Cup last March when Australia narrowly defeated the Colombians – the brilliance of Henry Zambrano et al.

The third round in that group is due to be played off tonight, with Colombia at home to deadly rivals Argentina. At that stage either Bob Lenarduzzi or Eddie Thomson will have a pretty good guide who to jet out to spy on in the remaining three games.

The recently played *Copa America* (the South American Championships) is the best guide to recent form. In the initial group stages the four teams of the World Cup South America Group 1 fared as follows;

Argentina (2nd Group C); 1–0 v Bolivia, 1–1 v Mexico, 1–1 v Colombia.
Colombia (1st Group C); 2–1 v Mexico, 1–1 v Bolivia, 1–1 v Argentina.
Paraguay (3rd Group B); 1–0 v Chile, 1–1 v Peru, 0–3 v Brazil.
Peru (1st Group B); 0–0 v Brazil, 1–1 v Paraguay, 1–0 v Chile.

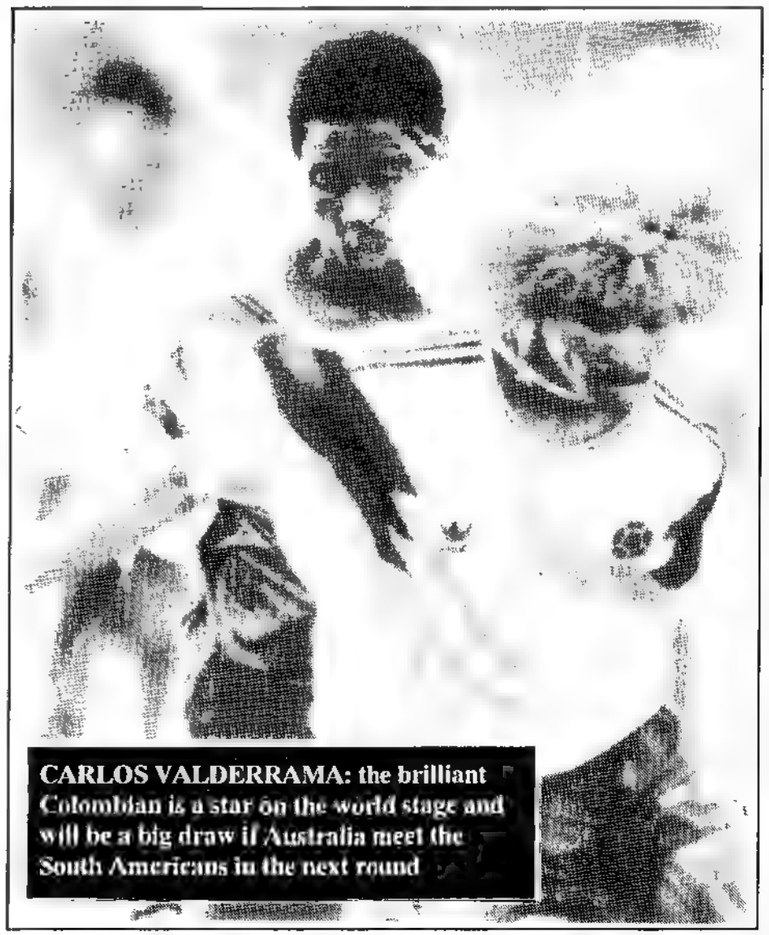
In the quarter finals Ecuador blitzed Paraguay 3–0, Argentina drew 1–1 with Brazil before going through on penalties, while Colombia drew 1–1 with Uruguay, also going through on a penalty shoot out.

The semi final showed just how evenly balanced the two top teams in Group 1 are, Argentina and Colombia fighting out a goal–less draw before Argentina advanced to the final – again after a penalty shoot out.

Another line to the strength of these teams can be drawn from the final in which a brace of goals from Batistuta helped Argentina narrowly defeat Mexico 2–1.

Mexico were an invited participant in the Championships and appeared as easy conquerors of Canada Again, after the *Copa America Mexico* played Canada in the CONCACAF Gold Cup and inflicted on the Canucks an 8 0 humiliation – their biggest ever defeat in history

Whether Argentina or Colombia meet the winner of tonight's tie, clearly the task is a huge one – but then so is the prize, a place at the 1994 World Cup finals next June and July



CARLOS VALDERRAMA: the brilliant Colombian is a star on the world stage and will be a big draw if Australia meet the South Americans in the next round

Star Socceroos

Paul Wade

Being in the right place at the right time is a knack that any successful person must have in life. But for Paul Wade, Captain Socceroo, it suddenly seemed to go all wrong.

The former Aussie skipper returned from an international trip to Singapore in April and developed pneumonia, and then his form, perhaps not unexpectedly, dipped in the CCSL play-offs.

In the first leg of the World Cup against New Zealand Wade had a stinker and all of a sudden the rumours were growing that his international career was over – with a place in the record books as the most capped player and an appearance in USA 94 seemingly on the scrap heap.

The media speculation mounted when he was left out of the team for the return leg in Melbourne, despite official confirmation that he was injured.

"I've always said that there is more pressure on me as captain than any other player," lamented Wade.

"It's like cricketers. If Allan Border gets dropped it would make front page news but if Steve Waugh gets dropped, nobody cares."

And at times in the games against AC Milan Wade looked to be struggling; trying *too* much to be involved and losing the plot as a consequence.

But he has bounced back to form and although he was left out of the side for the first game against Canada, for tactical reasons, Wade does not concede that his international career is over.

"I was disappointed to be left out," said Wade after being dropped in Edmonton.

"But I don't accept that my international career is over.

"As long as we are still in the World Cup then I hope to be a part of the set-up."

Wade is a tantalising four games short of equalling Peter Wilson's all-time Australian appearance record – and should Australia reach the finals next June, and Wade remain in the squad, then he is almost certain to smash that record.

The man who has the last word on Wade's inclusion in the team scoffs at suggestions that he is finished.

"Paul Wade finished – not by a long shot," says Aussie coach, Eddie Thomson.

"He was left out in Edmonton for tactical reasons but Paul still has a big part to play for Australia."

One for the scrapbook: Wade shakes hands with England captain Gary Lineker at the Sydney Football Stadium, June 1991.

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Australian national soccer squad members: team physio Pedro Ruz, team coach Raul Blanco, and star player Milan Blagojevic.

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So You Want To Be A *Coca-Cola* Socceroo?

by Steve Darby
A.S.F. National Development Officer

"Mum, Dad, I want to play for Australia, I want to be a *Coca-Cola* Socceroo!"

That is the phrase which more and more parents are hearing from their young boys (and girls) who love the game of soccer.

So how does this process of going from a kid in the street to a *Coca-Cola* Socceroo happen?

It would be easy to answer with the cliches, that they need "good genes", "lots of practice", "be in the right place at the right time", "have a good coach".

Of course there is an element of truth in all of the cliches.

However, the Australian Soccer Federation believes that a player is far too important to leave to a series of ad hoc processes, where a talented player may be lost to the game, or not fulfill their true potential.

All young players start their soccer life playing RooBall, which is the Australian Soccer Federation national modified game.

This game is based around the philosophies of maximum participation, equity, skill acquisition and fun. The latter being a vital factor in ensuring that a young player develops a true love of soccer, because if you don't love the game, you will never be good enough to make a living out of it.

Fabio Capello, coach of A.C. Milan, watched a RooBall exhibition before the *Coca-Cola* Socceroos match against his club and said; "This is fantastic, we are trying to do the same thing in Italy. the kids have more kicks of a ball, they must become better players."

Once the players graduate from RooBall they enter the heart and soul of soccer in Australia which is the club system. For the vast majority of players the club system goes from cradle to grave and a player can achieve years of satisfaction, friendship and excitement.

However, for those with the desire to be a *Coca-Cola* Socceroo, there is a clear ladder to the top

The Ladder To The Top

***COCA-COLA* SOCCEROO**
***Coca-Cola* OLYROOS (Under 23)**
***COCA-COLA* SOCCER LEAGUE**
***Coca-Cola* YOUTH (Under 20)**
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT (17-19)
***Coca-Cola*JOEYS (Under 17)**
STATE INTENSIVE TRAINING CENTRES (15-17)
STATE CENTRE OF COACHING
CLUB SOCCER (6-60)
ROOBALL (5-10 years)

That ladder ensures that on the way to becoming a *Coca-Cola* Socceroo, a young player gets quality coaching and the appropriate level of competition.

Of course there will always be exceptions, such as the late developer, and the system is always flexible so that every player gets a chance to make it.

The new addition to the ladder is the inclusion of State based Centres of Coaching, and Intensive Training Centres. Mike Wells, National Coaching Director, describes these:

"For some time the Australian Soccer Federation has been looking at establishing a clear player pathway which will not only stimulate aspiring young players but perhaps more importantly provide far better opportunities than have hitherto existed.

"Only sixteen to eighteen players at one time can be members of either the Australian Youth team, the Under 17s or the Australian Institute of Sport squads.

"The establishment now of a National Intensive Training Centre (ITC) Programme means that every State may have a selected squad undergoing better coaching and overall development preparation.

"The Australian Soccer Federation acknowledges the great support of the Australian Sports Commission in the recent establishment of a national network which will cater for between 130-160 players annually.

"This group will be developed with the long term view of lifting the playing standards right across the board.

"More importantly, however, in the short term these elite young players will have their targets set on making the National Under 17 team and then possibly a full place at the AIS.

"The feeder system to the State ITCs will be State Centres of Coaching. These will be established at a regional level and will provide for better opportunities to over 2,000 young players annually.

"Certainly this new structure will go a very long way to enhancing the playing abilities of players at all levels through the various developmental stages.

"The key to the whole National Plan will be in the appointment of appropriate staff which will throw great responsibility on the guardians of the game – the State Federations.

"Providing everyone plays their part in a unified manner then the future of Australian soccer looks very bright indeed."

So a young player can now climb to the top of the soccer ladder, but perhaps the best advice to the young player is play as often as you can, watch the game, read about it and most of all, learn to love it.

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The Record Book

MOST APPEARANCES IN A FULL INTERNATIONAL FOR AUSTRALIA
64 caps Peter Wilson

THE 50 CAP CLUB
64 Peter Wilson
60 caps John Kosmina
60 caps Ottie Abonyi
60 caps Paul Wade (incl 1st leg Canada)
57 caps Jimmy Rooney
50 caps Manfred Schaefer

MOST APPEARANCES BY AN AUSTRALIAN BORN PLAYER
60 caps John Kosmina

MOST GAMES AS AUSTRALIAN CAPTAIN
53 Peter Wilson

FIRST EVER AUSTRALIAN CAPTAIN (ASF)
Les Scheinflug (1965)

YOUNGEST PLAYER TO PLAY FOR AUSTRALIA
Duncan Cummings v China in 1975 at 17 years of age

OLDEST PLAYER TO MAKE A DEBUT FOR AUSTRALIA
Billy Rogers v New Zealand, in 1981 at the age of 31 years and 283 days.

OLDEST PLAYER TO PLAY FOR AUSTRALIA
Jimmy Rooney v Northern Ireland
at 35 years of age

LONGEST INTERNATIONAL CAREER
Davie Mitchell whose career for Australia has so far spanned 12 years from 1981, when he made his debut as a 19 year-old against Taiwan. Mitchell is still a member of Australia's international squad.

HIGHEST ALL-TIME SCORER
John Kosmina and Ottie Abonyi with 25 goals each

SCORER OF FIRST EVER WORLD CUP GOAL
Les Scheinflug, 1965 v North Korea (1-6)

MOST GOALS IN A SINGLE GAME
Gary Cole who scored 7 goals v Fiji in 1981

MOST PROLIFIC STRIKE RATE
Gary Cole who scored 17 goals in 19 appearances
Carl Veart also had a prolific start to his international career, scoring a goal in each of his first four games.

Willie Rutherford acclaims a late equaliser against Israel at the old Sydney Sports Ground

PLAYERS WHO HAVE SCORED A HAT-TRICK IN ONE GAME
Gary Cole (7) v Fiji, 1981
John Kosmina v Taiwan,1985
Davie Mitchell v Fiji, 1981
Davie Mitchell v Taiwan, 1985
Zarko Odzakov v Taiwan, 1985
Peter Ollerton v Hong Kong, 1977

PLAYERS WHO HAVE SCORED ON THEIR DEBUT
Graham Arnold v Taiwan, 1985
Branko Buljevic (2) v New Zealand, 1972
Gary Cole v Greece, 1978
Duncan Cummings v China, 1975
Les Scheinflug v North Korea, 1965
Paul Trimboli v Fiji, 1988
Carl Veart v Solomon Islands, 1992
Andrew Zinni v New Zealand, 1986

PLAYER WHO HAS SCORED IN MOST SUCCESSIVE GAMES
Attila Abonyi who scored in 5 successive games - against South Korea, Indonesia, Singapore (2), and Malayasia in 1967 and then on his recall against Greece in 1969.

Records shown include only games played since the formation of the Australian Soccer Federation in 1958. Readers with other interesting facts concerning this per[illegible] and the period since the first international in 1922, may wish to forward details to the Editor for inclusion in the next book on the subject - to be published in December.

AUSTRALIA'S UNLUCKIEST INTERNATIONAL PLAYER?

That has to go to Zlatko Nastevski who after finally qualifying for Australian citizenship was called up for a challenge match against Moscow Torpedo. Nastevski was the league's top scorer and a certainty for many further honours but he badly damaged his knee in the first half and had to be stretchered off - ending not only his Socceroo career before it had even started but his top class career in club football also.

Light, comfortable and roomy nylon sports jacket - in very patriotic colours. Featuring the Socceroos emblem, the jacket is fully lined and comes in sizes S, M, L and XL.
TRACK TOP
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POLO SHIRT
Code 2B, $25 + $7 PH&I

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SHORTS
Code 3B, $24 + $5 PH&I

Now players under 10 have their very own junior-sized soccer ball - the Mitre RooBall. The ball comes in two sizes (Size 3 for players under 8; Size 4 for players Under 10) and is handstitched on high quality P.U. coated synthetic leather with an eighteen panel configuration.
ROOBALL
Code 7B, $34.95 + $5 PH&I

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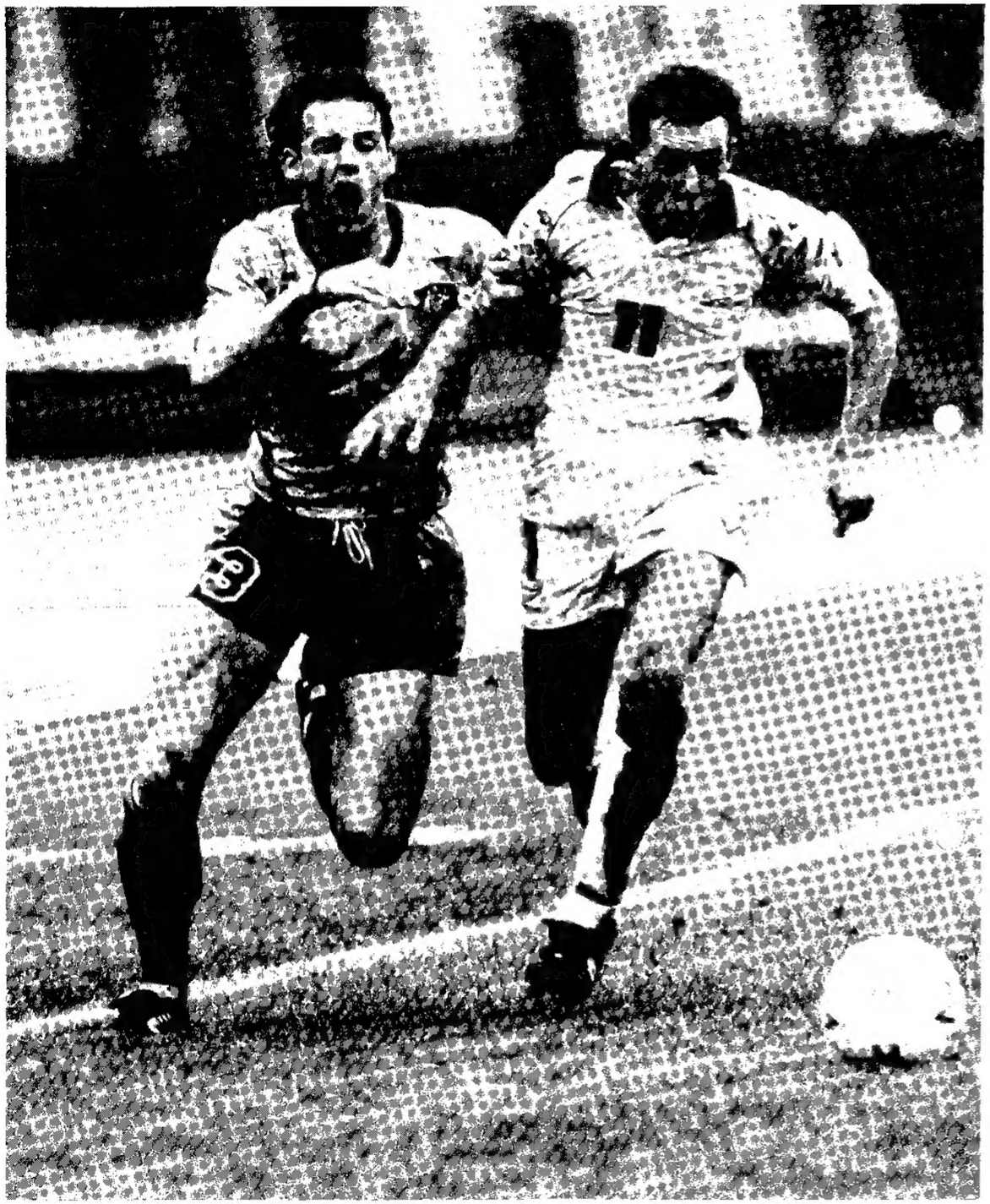
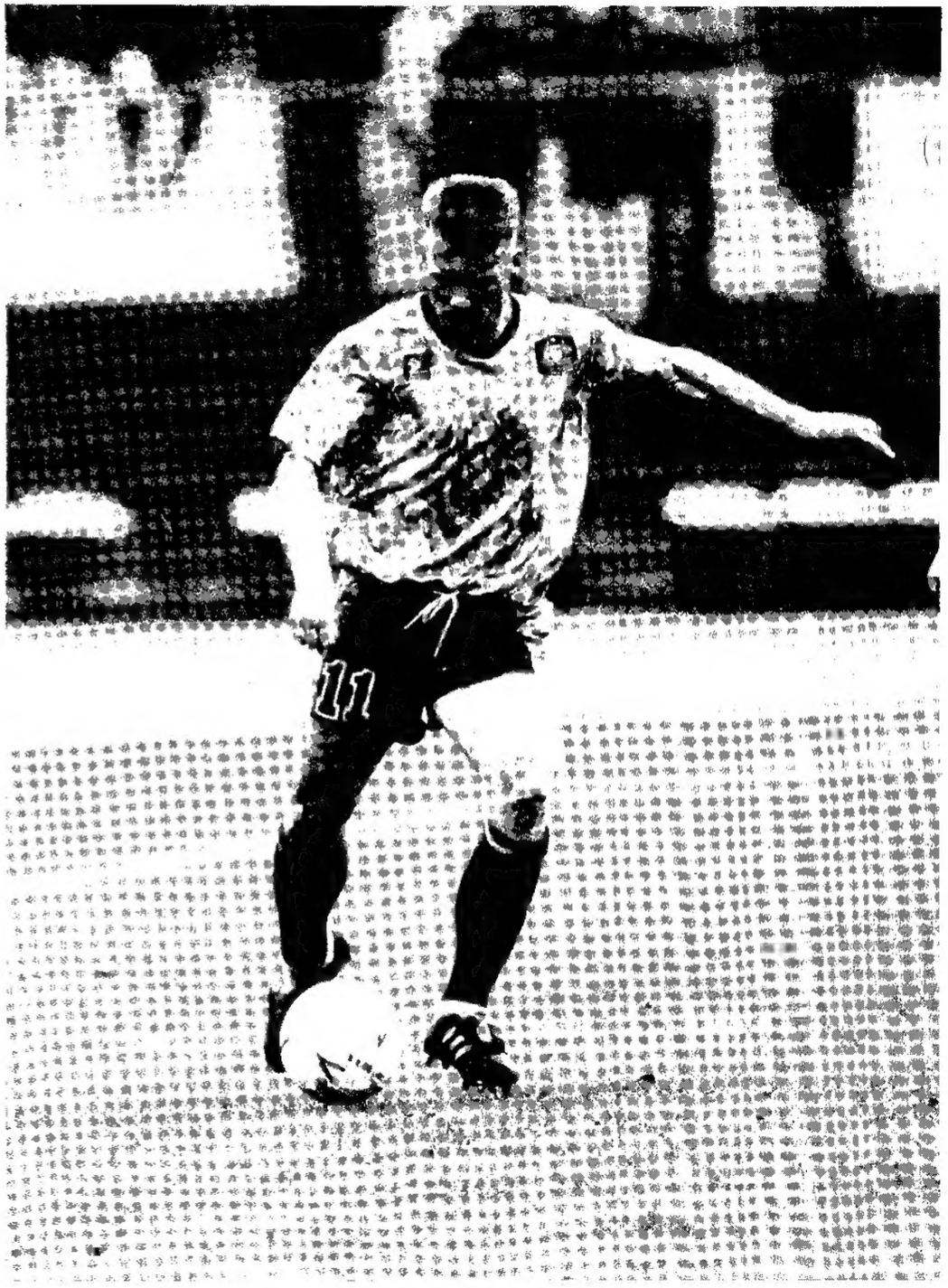
Star Socceroo



DOMINIC LONGO

Star Socceroo



ROBBIE SLATER

Super Canucks